NIL 2.7 1998

## PATENT APPLICATION

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

(K) 9/20/9

In re the Application of

Alcino Resende de ALMEIDA

Group Art Unit: 3407

Application No: 08/859,353

Examiner: K. LEE

RECLUED

For: SEAT FOR GATE VALVE

Filed: May 20, 1997

JUL 3 1 1998

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111

GROUP 3200

Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

sir:

In response to the Office Action dated January 26, 1998, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

## IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claim 3 in its entirety and without prejudice and substitute therefor the following claim:

having a casing with tubing concentrically disposed therein, said apparatus comprising a gas lift valve mounted on said tubing and having an inlet end in communication with a space between said tubing and said casing and an outlet in communication with an interior of said tubing, said gas lift valve consisting of a housing and a nozzle mounted in said housing, said nozzle having a continuously open passage through which gas is allowed to flow, wherein said passage consists of a curved inlet portion through which gas flow is speeded up, a smooth straight, intermediate portion providing a main restriction to gas flow and a smooth, outwardly tapered, conical shaped outlet portion through which

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